



TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Newsletter

Issue 78– October 2022

NEW SUB BRANCH MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new Sub-Branch Members:

VALE

Ian Hughes

Ray Slucher

Derrick Oliver

Lest We Forget



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Sub Branch General Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month,
At 10.30am, upstairs in Club Toukley RSL, with the exception of January.
All Members are invited to attend.**

Next monthly meeting	Monday 7 November 10.30 am
Remembrance Day	Friday 11 November 11.00 am
Members Xmas Party & Raffle	Sunday 18 December 11.00 am
Annual General Meeting	Sunday 19 February 10.30 am

Toukley RSL Sub Branch President's Report:



It is with great sadness that last month we awoke to the news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11. The Queen was Patron of the RSL and, as a mark of respect, the Sub Branch held a Memorial Service at the cenotaph on Thursday 22 September 2022 and laid a wreath. Due to the inclement weather, the service was held under cover at the cenotaph. It was pleasing to see fifty members, partners and the general public in attendance. Thank you to all who attended and also to Toukley RSL Pipes and Drums for your attendance and participation. Long Live the King.

Below are a few photos from the Memorial Service:



With the passing of the Queen, the RSL will soon have a new crown on the crest, meaning that all new Sub Branch documentation will be required to be updated to contain the new crest. This will be done once we have received the new

approved crest from RSL NSW. However, all interment plaques at the cenotaph will remain with the current crest. The new crest, replacing the Queen's crown with that of King Charles III, will be used for all new plaques.

The Anzac Commemorative plaque provided by the Sub Branch is now in place at the flagpoles at Porters Creek Public School. The school is very grateful to the Sub Branch for this new plaque.



The Anzac Commemoration Plaque
At Porters Creek Public School

Bob Swift has received quotations for two suitable bench seats for the cenotaph which have come in at unrealistic prices – far more expensive than we envisaged. The Committee has, therefore, agreed not to proceed with the proposed seats at this stage.

I am pleased to report that the Afghanistan/Iraq plaque which has been on order for some time is now in place on the cenotaph. This plaque honours all who served in both wars and will be dedicated at the Remembrance Day service on 11 November 2022. We are proud to have this plaque in our Memorial Gardens and I have added a couple of photos:



As mentioned at the September 2022 General Meeting, the Sub Branch has received a letter from the CEO of The Ary offering Toukley RSL Sub Branch members complimentary membership to Club Limited. This is a generous offer by The Ary Management for which we are very grateful. This means that Toukley RSL Sub Branch members will no longer need to pay membership fees to The Ary. Membership fees for the Sub Branch remain free. There will be no refund for those who have paid for multiple years. A letter of appreciation has been sent to The Ary on behalf of the members.

Tickets for the Wellbeing (Christmas Party) Function to be held on Sunday 18 December 2022 will go on sale at the November 2022 General Meeting. Cost will be \$20.00 per head for member and partner and will include a three-course luncheon. This is excellent value! If you wish to book a table of eight, then please provide all eight names with money (\$20.00 x 8) to Tom Hobbs at the time of booking. If you have any special dietary requirements, please also let Tom know at the time of booking. Great prizes have been purchased for the monster raffle. Brassick will entertain us from 11.00am through to 4.00pm. Let's finish off the year on a great note: mark the date in your diary for this popular event. Come along and enjoy the Christmas spirit with your Sub Branch comrades and friends at the last function for the year. Dress is smart casual.

Each year the Sub Branch is required to report to the NSW Cemeteries and Crematoria Registry. The Sub Branch continually maintains and updates our interment records. In the past twelve months to 30 June 2022, there were nine interments of Toukley RSL Sub Branch veterans. There are currently 428 interments.

The Sub Branch is awaiting notification on the outcome of a Grant application submitted for safety/walkway lighting at the cenotaph. Applications closed at the end of July.

Planning for our Remembrance Day and Dedication service on 11 November 2022 is well under way. A light lunch and refreshments will be available upstairs in The Arty following the service for Sub Branch members, partners and invited guests.

It is with great sadness that I advise you of the passing of Reverend Tim Waghorn, our very likeable Padre for three years, up to July 2019. Tim loved the Sub Branch and considered it an honour to be involved with our Commemoration Services and functions. He will be dearly missed. Rest in Peace, Tim.

Bob Wilson
President

**When I lost the fingers
on my right hand in a
freak accident, I asked
the doctor if I would
still be able to write
with it. He said,
“Probably, but I
wouldn’t count on it 😂**

. Keeping your Sub Branch Details Up to Date

If you have recently moved, or your details have changed, please let the Sub Branch Office know so that we can update your address and contact details.

This information is required so that we can send any correspondence to the correct address.

Also, if you know of a member who has moved, either to another area or to an Aged Care Facility, please notify the Sub Branch Office.



WANTED NEW MEMBERS

National Servicemen's Association Central Coast Sub-branch Toukley

Benefits-monthly meetings held 3rd Sunday every month except APRIL, DECEMBER and JANUARY, regular social luncheons for members, family and friends, BBQ's, Bus trips to places of interest.

Membership forms available from our Membership Officer Bobby Byrnes on 0400 352 811 or email robertbyrnes7@bigpond.com

Volunteers required for Vietnam Veterans Park at Gorokan.

The Vietnam Veterans Park which is on the left hand side of Wallarah Road just as you drive over the Toukley Bridge towards Gorokan is maintained by the Vietnam Vets group. The group would appreciate some assistance if anyone has a few hours to spare. They meet on a Wednesday at 9.30 every five weeks in winter and about every 2-3 weeks in growing season. If anyone has some spare time please contact John Fraher on 0408 092 230 or email at jffcashman@hotmail.com.au.

Puzzle Corner



Trivia

1. Which 1967 hit contains this text : "I thought love was only true in fairy tales"
2. Which 1968 hit contains this text : "The moment I wake up, before I put on my makeup"
3. Which is the only type of rock that floats?
4. The primary source of energy in Earth's climate system is what?
5. In what year did the Battle of Hastings take place?
6. What is hyperglycemia?
7. What country has already lost East Timor and may lose Aceh, West Papua and the South Moluccas?
8. What is the national flower of England, which by any other name smells as sweet?
9. What is England's southernmost county?
10. What is the 'troy ounce' commonly used to measure?
11. Which country was the first to make an unmanned landing on the moon?
12. What did Alfred Nobel, namesake of the Nobel Peace Prize, invent ?
13. What is the square root of 484 ?
14. What is in the inside of an avocado?
15. The logo of which company is a globe made from jigsaw pieces?

Member Profile : Kevin Arthur Foley

Kevin was born on the 18th February 1936 at Campsie, N.S.W

His Primary Schooling was at Padstow Primary School and his Secondary was at Tempe Technical College High School and notable alumni were Col Joye and Bob Simpson.

After leaving school Kevin started an apprenticeship with Ferris Hawes in the shoe trade at Kippax Street, Sydney and was awarded apprentice of the year.

Kevin left the shoe trade and joined the Commercial Bank in Sydney as a messenger and then to the Reserve Bank of Australia also as a messenger.

After applying for a promotion as Armourer and Firearms Instructor within the Reserve Bank and completing further training with the N.S.W. Police Force, Kevin was on occasions responsible for the safety of The Governor of the Reserve Bank and during that time met Prime Minister's John Howard and Paul Keating.

In 1956 Kevin was conscripted into the Australian Army as a National Serviceman and was posted to the 12th Battalion at Holsworthy and also served in the C.M.F. with the 32nd Heavy Artillery unit and the 17th Light Anti-Aircraft unit.

On the 8th October 1960 Kevin married the love of his life Bernadette (affectionately known as Bernie) at the Rockdale Catholic Church where they settled down at Doonside, N.S.W.

Kevin and Bernadette had 2 children, 4 Grand-children and 2 Great-grand children.

Kevin became a member of R.S.L. N.S.W. on the 17th June 1997.

Kevin has been a regular of The Toukley RSL Sub Branch for many years and can always be recognized in his "Nasho's" beret and attends as many meetings, outings and social events as he can.

Kevin follows the Parramatta Eels in the NRL and Sydney Swans in the AFL and enjoys gardening in his down time...



Visit to Fort Scratchley, September 2022

On 23 September members of the Toukley RSL sub-Branch visited Fort Scratchley, Newcastle. We were guided around the Fort and tunnels by Steve, a very knowledgeable Guide. During the 1.5 hour tour he made us aware of many interesting facts :

- The fort is built on top of the first ever coal mine in Australia – excavated by the early convicts circa 1800
- The Fort was built as a result of a war being fought between Great Britain and Russia. However the fort was only finished after that conflict ceased.
- The Fort is the only gun emplacement in Australia to have fired its guns on a hostile enemy vessel. It fired a number of shells at a Japanese submarine which was shelling the city of Newcastle in 1942
- The lengths the garrison had to go through to ensure that no sources of ignition found its way into the tunnels and gun emplacements. The garrison had an underground magazine and packed their own shells
- The fort fires a cannon every day at 1.00 pm – dating back to the time when ship's masters used to set the ship's chronometer before setting out to sea
- The variety of weapons on display range from a 9 inch cannon down to machine guns, rifles and revolvers
- The history and background of Sir Peter Scratchley who designed not only this establishment but also similar structures in Victoria, South Australia and New Zealand.

The cost to enter the fort is \$9 and this includes the guided tour and a look through the museum and rooms of the Fort.

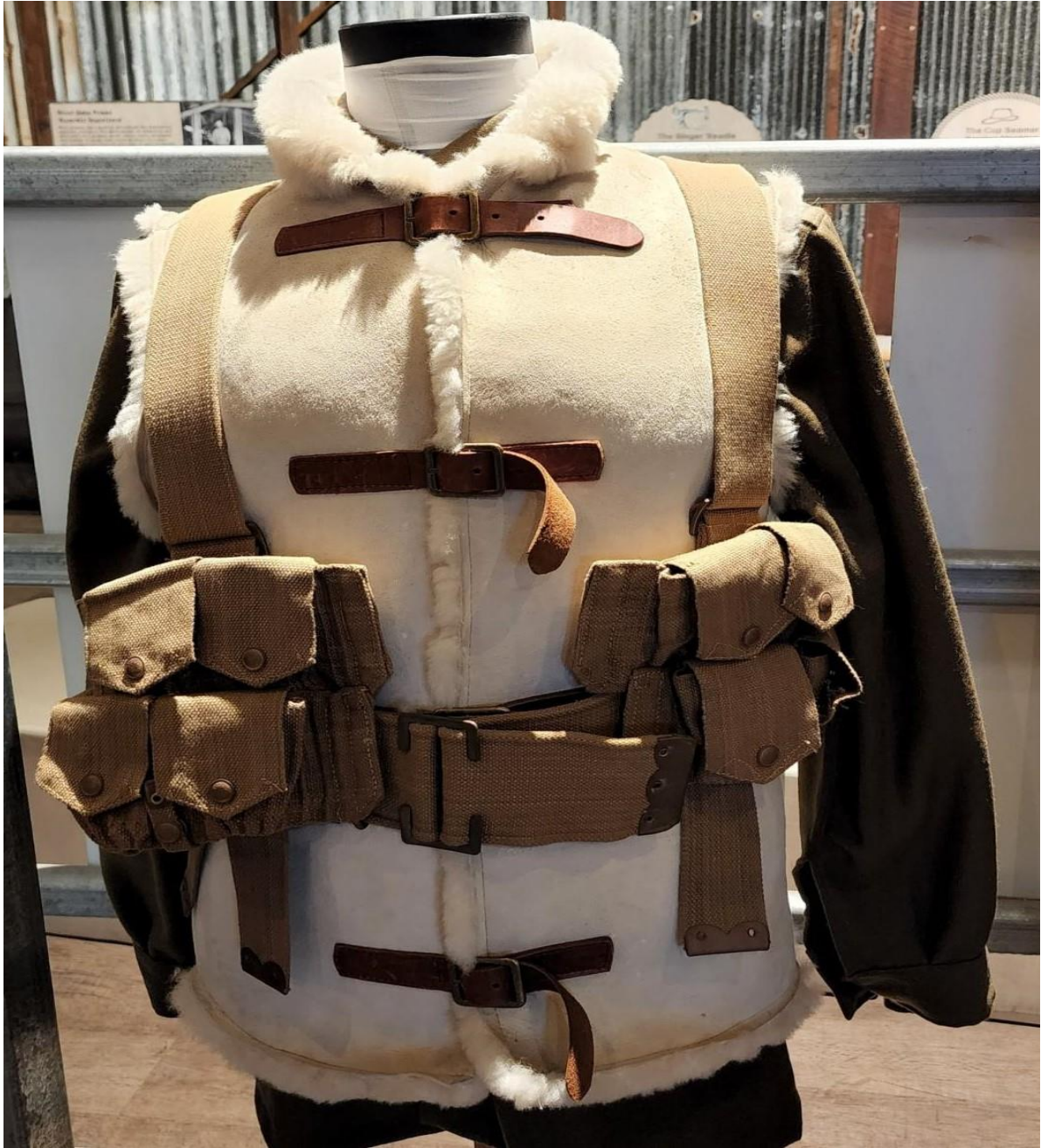
We then travelled to Hexham Bowling club for lunch. The bistro serves a wide variety of Chinese & Thai dishes very economically priced.

We next visited the UGG Boot factory at Thornton. We saw all manner of Hats, Clothing and Footwear made from Sheepskins & fleeces.

An interesting fact was the information that Sheep Skin Vests were sent to the troops in the trenches during the battles of the Somme and Pozieres in the WW1. Apparently the winter that year (1916) was the coldest Europe had experienced in 60 years. Some troops were actually freezing to death. The vest's were not supplied by the Army but by Volunteers, Families and Friends.

An enjoyable day was had by all with entertaining music en route and most members singing along.

An example of the sheepskin vest sent off to the Diggers in Europe in WW1.





John Fraher diligent on guard duty at Fort Scratchley

An enjoyable day was had by all with entertaining music en route and most members singing along.

We arrived back at the RSL at approx. 4pm where all passengers 'Thanked ' our driver Rod Clark.

Cheers

Bob S



Members and public at memorial service for Queen Elizabeth 11



Judith Walker with Mark Donaldson VC taken at Brisbane Water Legacy Luncheon where Judith represented the sub-Branch

Welfare Report

WELLBEING/VISITATION OFFICERS' MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

OFFICER	NUMBER OF VETERANS/FAMILY VISITS	HOURS	KILOMETRES TRAVELLED	PHONE CALLS	TRAINING HOURS	FUNERALS Interments
Tiffany Kelly	3	7.5	84	2	10	
Michael Humphries	4	3	30	0		1
Roy Norman	3	3.5	15	6		
TOTALS	10	14	129	8	10	1

From the Editor : Thank you to Roy Norman, Bob Swift, Judith Walker & Bob Wilson for contributions to the newsletter.

The love story of Ralph and Edna...

Just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to, doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have. Ralph and Edna were both patients in a mental hospital. One day while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool Ralph suddenly jumped into the deep end.

He sank to the bottom of the pool and stayed there.

Edna promptly jumped in to save him. She swam to the bottom and pulled him out. When the Head Nurse Director became aware of Edna's heroic act she immediately ordered her to be discharged from the hospital, as she now considered her to be mentally stable.

When she went to tell Edna the news she said, 'Edna, I have good news and bad news. The good news is you're being discharged, since you were able to rationally respond to a crisis by jumping in and saving the life of the person you love. I have concluded that your act displays sound mindedness.

The bad news is, Ralph hung himself in the bathroom with his bathrobe belt right after you saved him. I am so sorry, but he's dead.'

Edna replied, 'He didn't hang himself, I put him there to dry. How soon can I go home?'

Puzzle Corner Answers



1. The Monkees – I’m a bBeliever
2. Aretha Franklin – Say a Little Prayer
3. Pumice
4. The Sun
5. 1066
6. Excessive sugar in blood
7. Indonesia
8. Rose
9. Cornwall
10. Precious metals
11. Russia
12. Dynamite
13. 22
14. A stone
15. Wikipedia

Emergencies	000
Open Arms	1800 011 046
Lifeline	13 11 44
Kids Helpline	1300 224 636

TOUKLEY RSL SUB BRANCH

Patron: Karen McNamara

President: Bob Wilson

Vice Presidents: George Meier
Ian Collier

Secretary: Judith Walker

Treasurer: John Fraher

Committee: John Noorbergen
Michael Humphries
Tommy Hobbs
Roy Norman
Allan Love
Bob Swift

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Pensions & Welfare: Roy Norman
(Located at Diggers' Inn)

Trustees: Bob Wilson, George Meier, Milton Porter

Newsletter Co-ordinator: Ian Collier
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